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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Dr. Andrea APPEL et al.                      Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned  
Appln. No. : Not Yet Assigned (U.S. National Stage of PCT/EP2004/052743)  
Filed : April 27, 2006                      Confirmation No.: Not Yet Assigned  
For : RUBBER MIXTURE AND TIRE

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop Amendment  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

Prior to an examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to amend the specification, claims and Abstract, as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this Preliminary Amendment.

**Remarks** begin on page 5 of this Preliminary Amendment.